

Easterling, Deborah

275485

From: Easterling, Deborah
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 12:21 PM
To: 'Daniel Murphy'
Subject: RE: Sewer Bill Flat Rate Increase

Dear Mr. Murphy,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Letter of Protest/Comments to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. Your Letter of Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at www.psc.sc.gov.

- Docket No. 2017-228-S - Application of Palmetto Utilities, Incorporated for Adjustment of Rates and Charges for Customers in the Palmetto Utilities and Palmetto of Richland County Service Areas

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>; or you can also follow Docket No. 2017-228-S at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets/Detail/116386>.

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Deborah Easterling
 Executive Assistant
 Public Service Commission of South Carolina
 803-896-5133

Sign up for Meeting Agenda Alerts: Text [PSCAGENDAS](https://psc.sc.gov/MeetingAgendaAlerts) to [39492](https://psc.sc.gov/MeetingAgendaAlerts)

From: Daniel Murphy
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2018 7:47 PM
To: coustomerservicde@niamerica.comn
Cc: PSC_Contact <Contact@psc.sc.gov>
Subject: Sewer Bill Flat Rate Increase

RECEIVED

APR 09 2018

PSC SC
 MAIL / DMS

To: PALMETTO OF Richland County, LLC
 CC: PSC, SC

Customer Service Manager,

We know by the news we have Medicare thieves, hackers, bank robbers and SCE&G and others. Now we have sewer thieves to add to the list. The PSC, in this instance, failed in their stated mission and goals, in my humble opinion. Let me just say the PSC's lack of due diligence is going to cost me and my family twice what I was paying before their decision to double my bill. Did the PSC have anything to do with the SCE&G rate we have been paying for nothing now for 10 years?

This is the first time in my life I have seen a utility get a Flat Rate approval. I knew this thievery would occur the day they split off and sold the sewer business to a "For Profit" company. I bet you told the city you could do sewer service cheaper and better than they could? How many years is this rate good for or are you already planning for next year's increase to \$60 or \$70 or \$100 dollars? I resent having to subsidize the sewer usage for a family with 7 kids or 20 relatives. In the age of computers the computations for each household is easier than ever. What is an Equivalent Residential Customer? Did you just make that up to support your increase or is there actually such a thing in the sewer industry? How old, how tall, what gender, what weight qualifies as a ERC? Would my attendance at the town hall meeting made a difference? Obviously, not to you or the PSC. By the way I never got a letter from your

company or the PSC warning me that this was coming. No one I know has time to follow all the meetings the PSC has. Are PSC board members elected or selected? And if selected who does the selecting? What background does one have to have to qualify for a seat on the PSC? Your Flat Rate is the best example of socialism I have seen so far. Everyone is totally equal even if they are not. Is this wealth or sewage redistribution or both?

As an example of how insane your Flat Rate plan is just think for a minute of pulling up to a gas pump and there is a little sign there that says everyone has to pay \$100.00 regardless of how much gas they use. Eighty Million Dollars sounds like a lot of money, but when talking about Capital Expenditures not so much so. They are supposed to be amortized over the life (like 20 or 30 years to replacement) of the asset, not paid off all at once. Did you spend this money already betting on the PSC approving your rate plan or are these future expenditures? Was expansion of the Water Treatment Plant due to new construction? Why not have a rate for new construction customers versus old? Will your improvement in the treatment process benefit us by lower rates? I did not see that in your letter, lower rates for customers sometime in the future, that is. If not why put that in the letter as it only means you will make more profit by increased efficiency on

our dime. How can you justify, in our case, almost a 100 percent increase in a bill for sewer?

Did a CPA audit your records to verify your \$80 million claimed was accurate? Are these records available from the PSC for review by citizens? I am sure my email will not be the only one you receive and I recommend you reconsider your rate increase as it is outrageous. The flat rate thing is a non-starter with anyone with a brain and not ready for socialism. Don't you understand that when there is variation of service provided a Flat Rate is not applicable? It rips off some to the benefit of others. How is that even fair? This will be devastating to many that are retired and on a fixed income squeezing every dollar spent. Now they have to decide between medicine, food or paying the sewer bill.

Sincerely,

Dan and Karen Murphy

P.S. No reply required. I will watch the news and see how this plays out. Recommend you establish a fund in case the public does not agree with the PSC decision to go to Flat Rate socialism with the sewer bill. Once they figure it out there are winners and losers you will hear, or should hear, from the losers.

Daniel C. Murphy

Jesus is coming back.
Are you ready?

